(d) On what basis can the Indo-German relations may be called friendly in this background ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) to (c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

National consensus on Economic Reforms

1048. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister did speak of national consensus on 'economic reforms' in India at the International Economic Forum at Davos;

(b) whether in doing so he was unmindful of opposition from the various opposition parties regarding the sell out of the country's interests in the name of economic reforms and liberalisation ;

(c) whether it is not a fact that most of the trade unions and peasants' organisations opposed the economic reforms and liberalisation on the same ground; and

(d) whether under such circumstances national consensus on economic reforms could be claimed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) to (d) In his concluding remarks at the India session in the Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum at Davos Prime Minister referred to a "general consensus" on economic reforms. This is in keeping with the fact that the new economic policies have been discussed in Parliament and various measures under it have been approved by Parliament. The emphasis has been on a reform programme with a human face. A copy of the speech that PM delivered at the valedictory session of the World Economic Forum is attached for information.

Election of Ambassadors

1049. SHRI TINDIVANAN G. VENKATARAMAN :
SHRI M. A. BABY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the norms followed in the election of Ambassadors of India in the arena;

(b) whether they are given any training before they join their appointment as ambassadors ;

(c) what is the total expenditure incurred on our Embassies throughout world during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93; and

(d) what is the type of information that is entrusted to our Ambassadors abroad ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) :

(a) Ambassadors are not elected. The norms followed for the selection of Ambassadors are the possession of requisite experience, skill, and acumen to promote relations between India and the country of accreditation.

(b) They are provided intensive briefings in Ministry of External Affairs and concerned Government agencies prior to taking up their charge. Foreign Service officers, are groomed for this responsibility through their careers in the foreign service.

(c) 1990-91	Rs. 149.09 Cr.
1991-92	Rs. 202.98 Cr.
1992-93	Rs. 297.35 Cr.

(d) All the information relevant to his functioning as Ambassador is entrusted to our Ambassadors abroad.

US State Deptt's Humam Rights Report on India

1050. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the human rights report released by